

960  
74  
1836

KRAUTH MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
MT. AIRY, PHILADELPHIA.

# MINUTES

OF THE

## FORTY-FIRST SYNOD

OF THE

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MINISTERIUM,

OF

THE STATE OF NEW-YORK,

AND ADJACENT PARTS.

---

CONVENED IN THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN ZION CHURCH, NEW GER-  
MANTOWN, HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW-JERSEY, ON THE TENTH AND  
FOLLOWING DAYS OF SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1836.

---

NEW-YORK:

HENRY LUDWIG, PRINTER,

Corner of Vesey and Greenwich-sts.

.....  
1836.



THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
IN SENATE  
JANUARY 18, 1894

REPORT OF THE  
COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE

IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION  
PASSED BY THE SENATE  
MAY 18, 1893

NEW YORK:

THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
THE STATE OF NEW YORK



MINUTES  
OF THE  
FORTY-FIRST SYNOD  
OF THE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN MINISTERIUM  
OF THE  
STATE OF NEW-YORK AND ADJACENT PARTS.

---

*Saturday, Sept. 10th, 1836.*

In compliance with Resolution xxxiii of the Fortieth Session of Synod, the members of the Ministerium and lay delegates assembled in Zion Church, New-Germantown, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, in the congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. H. N. Pohlman. At 7½ P. M. the services of the Sanctuary were opened with prayer, by the Rev. W. J. Eyer, and the Rev. J. Berger delivered a discourse on Matthew, xvi, 26. "For what is a man profited, if he should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul."

*Sunday, Sept. 11th.*

At 9 o'clock, A. M. the teachers and scholars belonging to the New Germantown Sunday School assembled in the church, and after prayer by the Rev. J. Berger were addressed by the Rev. J. Medtart.

At 10½ o'clock the solemnities of divine worship commenced. A large congregation united heart and voice in singing a Hymn of "Welcome to the Brethren," composed for the occasion; prayer was then offered by the Pastor loci, when the Rev. President Dr. Wackerhagen delivered the Synodical discourse on Matthew xi, 29. "Learn of me."

At the same hour divine service was held in the Presbyterian Church at Lamington, where the Rev. W. D. Strobel preached on Matthew xi, 30. "For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

At 3½ o'clock, P. M. the services of the Sanctuary were resumed, and the Rev. J. Medtart delivered a sermon from 2d Corinthians, v, 17. "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new;" Dr. G. B. Miller making the concluding prayer.



In the evening, at 7½ o'clock, the Rev. W. D. Strobel preached on the duties and responsibilities of the church, with regard to the large number of emigrants from the "Father Land," from Hebrews xiii, 2. "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers;" Rev. N. W. Geortner introducing the services.

### *First Session.*

*Monday, Sept. 12th.*

The Synod assembled for the transaction of business at 9 o'clock, in the Session Room. The Brethren united in singing a Hymn, and the Synod was constituted with prayer by the President.

On calling the roll, the Secretary registered the following members present.

### *Ordained Ministers.*

1. Rev. A. Wackerhagen, D.D., President, Clermont, N. Y.
2. " H. N. Pohlman, Secretary, New-Germantown, N. J.
3. " F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr., Treasurer, New-York City.
4. " P. F. Mayer, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa.
5. " F. G. Mayer, Albany, N. Y.
6. " G. B. Miller, D.D., Hartwick Seminary, N. Y.
7. " F. H. Guinther, Buffalo, N. Y.
8. " J. Berger, A.M., Claverack, N. Y.
9. " W. J. Eyer, Rhinebeck, N. Y.
10. " C. B. Thuemmel, A.M., Clinton, N. Y.
11. " W. D. Strobel, New-York City.
12. " H. I. Smith, Boston, Mass.
13. " C. A. Smith, Palatine, N. Y.
14. " R. Collier, Spruce Run, N. J.
15. " L. Smith, Jr., New-York City.

### *Candidates.*

16. " Henry Scheib, Baltimore City, Md.
17. " A. T. Geissenhainer, New-York City.

### *Lay Representatives.*

18. Mr. Daniel Pohlman, Albany,
19. " George G. Leshner, Germantown and Livingston.
20. " John Haas, United German Lutheran Churches, N. Y.
21. " Joseph Smith, New-Germantown and German Valley,  
N. J.
22. " Frederick Rossman, Ghent and Millville.
23. " Philip W. Engs, St. James, N. Y.



25. Mr. Theodore Hack, Boston, Mass.
26. " Chauncey Nellis, Palatine and Stone Arabia.
27. " Jacob Castner, Spruce Run, N. J.
28. " Gotthard Schmidt, Newark, N. J.
29. " Lawrence Van Buskirk, Saddle River, N. J.

*Delegates from other Ecclesiastical Bodies, who appeared during the Session, and were received as advisory members.*

30. Rev. Jacob Medtart, from the Synod of Pennsylvania.
31. " Joseph Harrison, from the N. Y. Congregational Association.
32. " N. W. Geortner, from the Synod of Maryland.

*Other clergymen, who, during the Session, were admitted to the same privilege.*

33. Rev. C. Welden, of the Synod of Pennsylvania.
34. " J. Eisenlord, of the Hartwick Synod.
35. " F. Winkler, of the Synod of Ohio.
36. " W. Moellman, of Hanover, Germany.
37. " Dr. G. L. Beuttner, of the German Reformed Church, St. Louis, Mo.
38. " W. W. Blauvelt, of the Presbyterian Church.
39. " Mr. Lyall, of the Congregationalist Church.
40. " C. P. Wack, of the Reformed Dutch Church.
41. " C. Thomas, of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

#### *Clerical Members absent.*

1. Rev. J. F. G. Uhl, Churchtown, excused.
2. " F. W. Geissenhainer, D.D. New-York City, excused.
3. " J. W. Starman, Waldoboro', Me., excused.
4. " H. Hayunga, Williamsburgh, U. C. excused.
5. " W. L. Gibson, Hartwick, N. Y. excused.
6. " W. A. Fetter, Rochester, N. Y. excused.
7. Candidate, W. F. Veil, North Boston, N. Y. excused.

#### *Congregations not represented.*

Churchtown, English Congregation of St. Matthews, N. Y.

Waldoboro', Me., Hartwick, Buffalo, Rhinebeck and Wurtemburgh, Williamsburgh and Osnaburgh, U. C. Rochester and Rush, Eden, Boston and Hamburgh, N. Y. Ramapo, N. J. United Congregation of Lafargeville, Pamela, &c.

The Minutes of the XL. Synod were produced and unanimously adopted.

The Rev. President then read his report of the business transacted by him since the adjournment of the Ministerium, which was accepted;



and with the accompanying documents laid upon the table, to be acted upon in due order of business. (*See Appendix A.*)

The proceedings of the Synods of West Pennsylvania, Hartwick, North Carolina, Maryland, Pennsylvania and South Carolina, were presented for consideration and distribution. Whereupon it was,

I. *Resolved*, That the Rev. J. Medtart, C. A. Smith, and L. Smith, jr. be a Committee to examine and report on the above proceedings.

The Secretary presented a communication from the Rev. J. G. Morris, Sec. of a convention held at Gettysburgh in April last, when it was,

II. *Resolved*, That the above communication and accompanying documents, be referred to a Committee, consisting of Rev. Dr. Mayer, H. J. Smith, and Mr. C. Nellis.

Rev. Dr. Mayer gave notice that he intended, at the proper time, to present a resolution in relation to certain charges and insinuations against clergymen, connected with this body, which had been introduced into the Lutheran Observer.

The clergy next handed in their parochial reports, as exhibited in the following table.



# PAROCHIAL RETURNS.

No. of Congregations.		Baptisms.		Confirmations.		No. admitted from other churches.		No. of individuals who have partaken of the Lord's Supper.		No. entitled to Communion.		No. removed.		No. of deaths of members.		No. of funerals attended in congregations.		Sunday Schools.		Teachers.		Scholars.		No. of Catechumens.		No. of candidates for Confirmations.		Post-Offices.
Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Children.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	Infants.	Adults.	
Dr. P. F. Mayer,	64	4	14					*	274	325	3			20	224	158												Philadelphia, Pa.
Rev. F. G. Mayer,	33		5					274	325					20	117	78												Albany, N. Y.
Dr. Wackerhagen,	163	4	4				2	128	335				4	26	1	24												Clermont, Columbia County, N. Y.
" F. W. Geissenhainer,																												{ New-York City, 509, Broome-street.
Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr.,	194		45				143	600	800				53	109	110	60												{ New-York City, 507, Broome-street.
" J. W. Starman,	33		3					148						14	1													Waldoboro', Maine.
" H. N. Pohlman,	70		6				10	94	117				2	7	1	117												New Germantown, Hunterdon Co. N. J.
" F. H. Guinther,	52		22					218					14	1	2	40												Buffalo, N. Y.
" J. Berger,	196	1	18				2	242					4	27	1	60												Claverack, Columbia Co. N. Y.
" W. J. Eyer,	41		30										13		8													Rhinebeck Flatts, N. Y.
" W. D. Strobel,	20	1	4										6	10	9	60												New-York City, 162, Grand-street.
" H. I. Smith,†	10							92	170				4		1	40												Boston, Mass.
" C. A. Smith,	34		6					65	125				4		110	50												Palatine, Montgomery Co. N. Y.
" R. Collier,	25		13					175	217				1	7	213	70												Clarkesville, Hunterdon Co. N. J.
" L. Smith, jr.	131	129					50	60	45				6	41	1													New-York City.
" W. A. Fetter,	14	1					4	86	500				8	3	6	50												Rush, Monroe Co. N. Y.
" W. F. Veil,	28	36					1	157	140				2	5	3	325												North Boston, Erie Co. N. Y.
" H. Scheib,	186	137					246	793	1043				12	68	1	42												Baltimore City, North Gay-street.
" F. Winkler,	16	3						101	450				2			3												Newark, N. J.
" A. Wetzol,	30	9						75					2															New London, Oneida Co. N. Y.
" P. H. Dennler,	20	1	7					52				20	2	2														Evans' Mills, Jefferson Co. N. Y.

\* Communion 1835, Sept. 27th, 133; Dec. 25th, 145;—1836, Good Friday, 192; Whitsunday, 134.

† 31 of these were baptized by the senior pastor of St. Thomas' Church, Rev. J. F. G. Uhl.

‡ Bible Class.

33 291 458



## MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS.

Rev. Dr. Mayer remarks: "Since the last Synod, a variety of claims for the general interests of our church, and in behalf of congregations erecting houses of worship, have been urged upon the members of St. John's Church. Subscriptions have been obtained among them by the Rev. B. Keller, for the General Education Society, to the amount of nearly \$600: by Dr. S. S. Schmucker, for the Seminary at Gettysburgh, upwards of \$1000; and by the Rev. S. A. Mealy, for the church at Savannah, between \$800 and \$900: total, from \$2400 to \$2500. Among the Institutions in the congregation, for the promotion of Christian knowledge and piety, are a Tract and Book Society, and a Society for the relief of poor members, and the assistance of students of divinity."

Rev. F. G. Mayer remarks: "Since the 31st of January, I have been favoured with the assistance of the Rev. Wm. Moellman, an ordained Minister of the Lutheran Church, who arrived in the City of New-York, from Hanover, on the 1st of January, 1836. Mr. M. has officiated upwards of three months twice on the Lord's day, and afterwards once on Sunday, and once on Wednesday evening. On Sunday, the 10th of July, I consecrated a neat and convenient Lecture and Sunday School room, in a building erected by the Trustees of the Lutheran Church, situated in the rear of the church. It is in this room that worship in the German language, and our Sunday School is held."

Dr. Wackerhagen remarks: "With regard to my congregations, I can say, with as much gratification as truth, that all three of them appear to go on increasing in spiritual life, and attention to the ordinances of the church. Of that in the town of Livingston, however, it must be observed, that more than those of Germantown and Pine Plains, it is subject to fluctuations, on account of frequent removals, the lands being held generally only upon life leases, or yearly rents."

Rev. H. N. Pohlman remarks: "Since the last meeting of Synod, we have introduced a system of Monthly Tract distribution into the congregation, with the happiest results; and we are privileged to see, that our 'labour is not in vain in the Lord,' by the steady increase of vital godliness in our midst. Though, in view of the multitudes among us, who should be found on the Lord's side, we are frequently compelled to exclaim, 'Who hath believed our report, and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?' yet are we disposed 'to thank God and take courage,' praying that 'the Lord will arise and have mercy upon Zion, and that the set time to favour her may soon come.'"

Rev. J. Berger reports: "That the congregation at Churchtown, of which he has lately taken charge, are erecting a new church, which will cost over \$4000, and will, it is believed, be ready for consecration about the 1st of November next."

Rev. W. D. Strobel remarks: "The number of confirmations reported is small, for the inclemency of the winter was so great, that a class could not be collected together in time for the festival of Easter; immediately after which, the Pastor was absent some time. But it is intended to have confirmation on Christmas. In this congregation, none but adults are admitted, and this also tends to diminish the number. It was hoped, that a larger sum of money would be raised for benevolent purposes, but in addition to many other numerous demands, we have been at great expense repairing our little edifice, which was in a bad state from the effects of time. The church council have lately made arrangements which will lead to a regular organization of the congregation for Missionary purposes. We have raised for the Synod, \$100 during the year."

Rev. R. Collier remarks: "The cause of our Redeemer is gradually progressing in our congregation, and the number of worshippers during the past year, has increased nearly one fourth. Like other congregations emerging into life, we have had our difficulties; but the clouds are dissipating, and the sun of righteousness begins to shine. The Lord indeed has blessed our feeble endeavours beyond our most sanguine expectation; he has watered us with the dews of heaven, and has rendered us eternal debtors to his grace; his goodness to us demands our grateful tribute of praise."



Rev. W. A. Fetter remarks: "The corner-stone of our church in Rochester was laid in the month of May. The Rev. Mr. Stover, of Dansville, assisted me in the solemnities of the day. After divine service, which was held in the "Free Church," the congregation went in procession to the place where the church is to be built, where after an address and prayer in the German language, by the Pastor, the corner-stone was laid. The Rev. Mr. Stover concluded with a prayer in the English language, and the solemnities closed by singing a hymn. Every one present was deeply impressed with the solemnity, and many tears of joy were shed on the occasion. The walls are now up, but we cannot go further, our means are exhausted. Would to God that brethren would come to our aid."

Rev. W. F. Veil reports, that "The congregation in Boston, Erie Co. N. Y. are raising means for the purpose of building a church. \$600 are already subscribed." He adds, "I doubt whether the building will be commenced this fall, as the general circumstances are not very prosperous; though aid from our sister churches would realize our wishes."

III. *Resolved*, That the Rev. J. Berger, P. W. Engs, and J. Smith, Esq's. be a Committee to inspect the Treasurer's accounts and vouchers, and report thereon.

The following contributions in aid of the funds for benevolent purposes, instituted by the Ministerium, were then received by the Treasurer:

#### CONTRIBUTIONS.

	Synodical.	Missionary.	Education.	Wid. Fund.
From Dr. P. F. Mayer, . . . . .	5 00	5 00		3 00
" St. John's Church, Philadelphia,		50 00		
" Albany, . . . . .	5 00	19 25	19 25	
" Rev. F. G. Mayer, . . . . .				3 00
" Germantown, Livingston & Pine Plains, . . . . .	2 00	29 20		
" Dr. A. Wackerhagen, . . . . .				3 00
" Dr. G. B. Miller, . . . . .	4 00	3 00	3 00	
" New Germantown and German Valley, . . . . .	20 00	102 77		
" A poor girl, a member of Zion Church, New Germantown, .		4 88		
" Rev. H. N. Pohlman, . . . . .				3 00
" " F. H. Guinther, . . . . .	2 00			3 00
" Ghent and Millville, . . . . .	11 56	25 00		
" Rev. J. Berger, . . . . .	5 00			3 00
" Rhinebeck, . . . . .		22 00		
" Wurtemburgh, . . . . .	2 00	12 50		
" United German Luth. Churches, New York, . . . . .	5 00	5 00		
" Rev. H. Hayunga, . . . . .	2 00	2 00	2 00	4 00
" " C. B. Thuemmel, . . . . .				3 00
" St. James' Church, N. Y. . . .	10 00	90 00		
" Rev. H. I. Smith, . . . . .	2 00			3 00
" Palatine & Stone Arabia, . . .	2 22	17 18½		
" Rev. C. A. Smith, . . . . .				3 00
" " Lewis Smith, jr. . . . .	5 00			
" " W. A. Fetter, . . . . .	5 00			
" " H. Scheib, . . . . .	10 00	10 00	5 00	
	97 78	397 78½	29 25	31 00



The Synod acknowledge with gratitude the generous contribution of \$50, received by the hands of the Rev J. Medart, from the Missionary Society of Zion and St. Michael Churches, Philadelphia, in aid of the congregation at Rochester, to assist them in building a house for the worship of God.

Prayer by the Rev. Dr. Mayer.

Adjourned.

This morning at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock, the Rev. N. W. Geortner delivered a discourse on Acts xxvi, 28. "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

### *Second Session.*

*Monday, 2 o'clock, P. M.*

Prayer by the Rev. H. N. Pohlman.

The Rev. Dr. Mayer, from the Committee on the communication of the Rev. J. G. Morris, presented the following report:

"The Committee appointed to consider the proceedings of the Convention held at Gettysburgh, April 20th, 1836, for the purpose of establishing a Book Company for the Lutheran Church in the United States, report, that it appears to them inexpedient for this Ministerium to take part in such an enterprise."

PHILIP F. MAYER, *Chairman.*

IV. *Resolved*, That this Report be accepted.

The Rev. Chas. A. Smith, from the Committee on Hartwick Seminary, presented the following Report:

"I beg leave respectfully to Report, that I was present at Hartwick at the close of the last term, and am only able to afford the usual testimony in favour of the examination. In consequence of some mistake, the board of Trustees did not meet until the following week. Of their proceedings I can, therefore, say nothing. For information on this subject which is of most importance to this body, I refer the Synod to the Rev. Mr. Berger, who can afford all the necessary information in regard to the proceedings of the board, as he was present at their meeting."

CHAS. A. SMITH.

V. *Resolved*, That this Report be accepted and adopted.

The Rev. J. Berger reported verbally, that at the meeting of the board which he attended, an assistant Professor had been appointed in the place of Rev. H. I. Smith, resigned, and that the funds of the In-



stitution were declining in consequence of some part of them being vested in Turnpike Stocks. He begged the Synod to keep the interests of the Seminary in view, and hoped the time was not far distant when the board, with the assistance of the Synods, would be able to appoint an additional Professor, and thus place the Institution on that high ground, which its importance to the church demanded. He concluded by stating, that in consequence of his election to the board of Trustees, he was under the necessity of resigning his place as a member of the Hartwick Committee.

Whereupon, the President, with the approbation of the house, appointed the Rev. W. J. Eyer in his place.

The Rev. Dr. Mayer presented the following Report:

"The subscriber, acting under the 10th resolution of the 39th, and the 7th resolution of the 40th Synod, respectfully reports, that two dozen copies of the old Hymns and Liturgy have been given to the Rev. Jehu Jones, for the use of the coloured congregation of St. Paul's church in Philadelphia; that 36 copies of the same have been sent to Mr. P. A. Strobel, Lexington, S. C. for sale; that 18 copies have been sold to the Sunday School-Society of St. James' church, New-York, for \$4 50; that \$26 have been received from Rev. Dr. Hazellius, for books he kindly undertook to sell for us last year; that from the moneys thus obtained, Mr. Mentz's bill for binding the old Hymns and Liturgy has been discharged, as will appear by the voucher herewith presented, and that the balance \$16 75, has been handed over to the Committee entrusted with the fund for the assistance of disabled clergymen." &c.

PHILIP F. MAYER.

VI. *Resolved*, That this Report be accepted and adopted

The Rev. W. D. Strobel presented the following Report:

"The Committee on the fund for the assistance of disabled clergymen, &c. report: That the nett proceeds of the sale of Hymn Books, since the last Synod, amount to \$44 75, making with the sum of \$16 75 balance from the sale of old Hymn Books, a total of \$61 50. They would mention, that it is desirable, that a more general contribution to the fund should be made, as hitherto our receipts from subscriptions have been comparatively small."

WM. D. STROBEL, *Chairman*.

VII. *Resolved*. That this Report be accepted and adopted.

P. W. Engs, Esq. from the Committee on the Treasurer's accounts, reported as follows:

"The Committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts, report: That



they find the same correct, and that there is now in his hands, as follows:

	Cents.
On the Hymn Book account, . . . . .	84 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " Missionary account, . . . . .	67 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " Education account, . . . . .	75
	<hr/>
Making . . . . .	227 $\frac{1}{4}$
From which deduct a balance due him on Synodical account, . . . . .	} 55
	<hr/>
	172 $\frac{1}{4}$

And that there remains as above in the Treasurer's hands, one dollar seventy-two and a quarter cents."

P. W. ENGS, *Chairman.*

VIII. *Resolved*, That this report be accepted and adopted.

Agreeably to notice, the Rev. Dr. Mayer called up for consideration the following resolution, which after discussion was adopted:

IX. *Resolved*, That we entirely disapprove of the charges and insinuations against clergymen connected with this body, which have been introduced into the Lutheran Observer, in editorial or other articles: because we conceive it to be the province, not of any self-constituted arbiter, but of the Ministerium to entertain accusations against its members; because we regard it as an act of grievous injustice, to the parties concerned, to publish throughout the church and the land, criminations, which may be altogether false or grossly exaggerated; and because every unfounded or unnecessary allegation of this sort is calculated to impair the usefulness of ministers, to sow the seeds of uneasiness in congregations, and to weaken the bonds by which we should be united.

In compliance with Resolution xxviii. of the last Synod, the Secretary of the Missionary and Education Committee, presented the following plan for Missionary and Education operations, adopted at a meeting of the Board held in New-York in October last.

#### PREAMBLE.

That it was the purpose of Jesus Christ, the supreme head of the church, to have the principles and blessings of his religion diffused throughout the earth, appears to be evident. It is equally so that he intended to use the instrumentality of those, who from age to age might become his disciples. The very nature and constitution of the Christian Church, seem to designate it to be a Missionary Institution; and the preaching of the Gospel to all the world, a duty which is obliga-



tery upon it; in the performance of which, each of its members is bound to take an active part. For the purpose of carrying out these views, and of facilitating these operations, *it is hereby ordained* by the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of the State of New-York and adjacent parts, at its Forty-first Synodical Meeting: That this body be considered A MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION, and that the following articles be adopted as its regulations on this subject.

ARTICLE I. Every congregation, connected with this Ministerium, shall be considered an auxiliary association. The vestry, or such other officers as may be selected, shall be its managers; and every congregation, which contributes \$25 per annum, shall be entitled to one member of the board of managers, and if it contributes \$100 or upwards, per annum, to two. Every clergyman belonging to this Ministerium, who shall raise the sum of \$25 or upwards, shall also be a member of the board.

ARTICLE II. At every meeting of the Synod, at which an election for officers shall take place, there shall be appointed a board of Directors, to be called the Missionary and Education Board of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium of the State of New-York. It shall be composed of 12 Clergymen and 8 Laymen, and such representatives as the auxiliaries may be entitled to. It shall require seven of these to make a quorum at any meeting which is regularly convened, and they shall have the regulation of all the Missionary and Education concerns of this Ministerium.

ARTICLE III. The President of the Synod shall always be, ex-officio, chairman of the Board, and the funds shall be placed in the hands of the Synod's Treasurer. But the Board shall appoint its own Secretary, who shall also be Secretary of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IV. The board of Directors, at their annual meeting, shall select from their own number, seven members who shall constitute an Executive Committee, four of whom shall be clergymen and three laymen; a quorum to do business shall consist of four members. To this Committee shall belong the pointing out of fields for Missionary labour—the appointing of Missionaries, the aiding of destitute churches, and of beneficiaries. They can call extra meetings of the Board, to whose directions they shall be subject, and to whom they shall report at least once a year. They shall have the disposal of the funds, and may appoint agencies in the recess if they see fit. Any vacancy which may occur in the Committee, may be filled by the Chairman of the Board.

ARTICLE V. Every member of the church shall be considered a member of this association, and is expected to contribute to its funds,



either directly, or through the congregation, with which he or she may be connected; and any other person who may contribute annually to its funds, shall also be a member.

ARTICLE VI. No person shall be employed as a Missionary, by the Executive Committee, or by the Board, who has not been regularly admitted into some Lutheran Synod in the United States.

ARTICLE VII. The Board shall hold an annual meeting at some time appointed during our annual Synodical meeting, and shall report an account of its proceedings.

The above plan being accepted, was considered by sections and amended, when it was unanimously

X. *Resolved*, That the plan for Missionary and Education operations be adopted.

XI. *Resolved*, That 500 copies of the Minutes of the present Session, and 1000 copies of the proceedings of the Missionary and Education Committee, be published under the direction of the Secretary.

XII. *Resolved*, That the President report to the Synod, at its Session to-morrow morning, the names of those persons who shall constitute the Missionary and Education Board, under its new organization.

The Rev. H. I. Smith, Chairman of the Committee, to take into consideration the expediency of a Union of this Body with the General Synod, presented the following Report:

"Your Committee, appointed under Resolution XXX, of the last Synod, to inquire into the expediency of a union with the General Synod, after a careful consideration of the subject, and an interesting and satisfactory correspondence with prominent ministers of our church, would beg leave to report in favour of the measure: Because we believe that

1. It will give an increase of character and respectability to our church.

2. It will produce greater harmony and concert of action in our benevolent enterprises, and thus it will increase our means of usefulness in the wide field now occupied by the destitute of our common household of faith.

3. It will open a constant intercourse between us and the other members of the great Evangelical Lutheran Family, by which hearty confidence and cordial co-operation can scarcely fail to be augmented.

4. And last, though not least, the measure is imperiously demanded, for our own security against undue encroachments."

HENRY I. SMITH, *Chairman*.  
BENJAMIN OGDEN,  
JACOB BERGER.



The Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. from the same Committee, presented a Report of the minority, averse to the further prosecution of the subject, on account of its repugnance to the views of several of the brethren. and its tendency to distract the peace and harmony of some of the congregations.

Mr. John Haas, delegate from the United German Lutheran Churches, N. Y. presented a communication from that congregation, averse to the Union. The Rev. F. G. Mayer presented a copy of several Resolutions, passed at a meeting of the Council of Ebenezer Church, Albany, of the same character.

P. W. Engs, Esq. delegate of St. James' Church, N. Y. presented a communication from that congregation, in favour of the Union.

Joseph Smith, Esq. delegate of Zion Church, New Germantown, presented a resolution from that congregation of a like character. When it was

XIII. *Resolved*, That the reports in relation to the expediency of a union with the General Synod, and the communications from the several congregations, on the same subject, be referred to a Committee of the whole house, and made the order of the day for tomorrow.

Closed with prayer by the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, Jr.

### *Third Session.*

*Monday Evening, 7½ o'clock.*

#### Missionary Meeting.

A numerous congregation assembled in the church, and united their voices in singing the Missionary Hymn, when the Session was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Mayer.

The Rev. W. D. Strobel, Secretary of the Missionary and Education Committee, presented their annual Report, (*See Appendix B.*) when it was

XIV. *Resolved*, That the report be accepted, adopted, and published in the Minutes.

P. W. Engs, Esq. offered the following resolution, which was ably supported by the mover and the Rev. Dr. Buttner, and adopted.

XV. *Resolved*, That the interests of Protestant Christianity, demand, at the hands of that portion who bear the name of the immortal reformer, Martin Luther, to put forth their energies in rescuing from the grasp of Romanism, those honest German emigrants who are lured into its snares.

The Rev. J. Medtart next took a general view of what had been



done in the cause of Missions, and the effects which had invariably followed such exertions, in the increase of practical piety in the church. He was followed by the Rev. Dr. Mayer, in a very animated address, when the following resolution, proposed by the former gentleman, was unanimously adopted:

XVI. *Resolved*, That the cause of Missions is the cause of the church, and that in order to promote the interests of the church, we should engage actively in the cause of Missions.

The Rev. W. D. Strobel offered the following resolution, which he supported by many cogent and convincing facts, in a very pertinent and interesting address:

XVII. *Resolved*, That the little we have hitherto done, is an additional argument why, whatsoever our hands find to do, we should do it with all our might.

The Rev. Dr. G. B. Miller gave a practical demonstration, that the argument in the above resolution was a convincing one, by pledging himself to pay to the Treasurer of the Ministerium, within the year, for Missionary and Education purposes, \$50, provided ten others would do the same.

The Rev. J. Berger stated, he rejoiced in being thus provoked to love and to good works, accepted the pledge, and offered the following resolution, which he supported in a spirit-stirring address:

XVIII. *Resolved*, That in this glorious cause, we will continue to make pledges, and that, with the help of God and our people, we will continue to redeem them.

The Secretary followed in accepting the pledge; and urged upon the congregation the necessity of doing what they could in building up the walls of the spiritual Zion, until the top stone should be brought forth with shoutings "grace, grace unto it;" when a collection was taken up, amounting to upwards of \$100. Meanwhile the good work was going on among the brethren, and at the close of the meeting, it was found that the following gentlemen had pledged themselves for the several sums set opposite their names: Dr. G. B. Miller, \$50. Rev. J. Berger, \$50. Rev. C. A. Smith, \$50. Rev. H. N. Pohlman, \$50. Rev. W. D. Strobel, \$50. Rev. H. I. Smith, \$50. Rev. C. B. Thuemmel, \$50. Rev. N. W. Goertner, \$50. Rev. F. H. Guinther, \$25. Rev. W. J. Eyer, \$25. Rev. J. Medtart, \$25. P. W. Engs, Esq. \$25. Rev. H. Scheib, \$25. Rev. R. Collier, \$25. Making a total of \$550. The exercises of this interesting meeting were closed by singing the 563d Hymn, and prayer, when the President pronounced the benediction.



**Fourth Session.***Tuesday, 9 o'clock, A.M.*

Prayer by the Rev. J. Medtart.

The Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. as delegate to the New-York Congregational Association, presented the following Report:

"Your delegate appointed at the 40th Synod, of the New-York Ministerium, Resolution XII, to represent this honourable body, at the next annual meeting of the Congregational Association, to be held at Patchogue, L. I. on the 3d Wednesday in May, 1836, begs leave to report: That he attended said meeting at the appointed time and place, and met with the most cordial reception. No particular business in relation to this body transpired there, except a reciprocity of the friendly feelings towards our Ministerium, by appointing the Rev. Mr. Harrison to meet with us this year."

F. W. GEISSENHAINER, JR.

XIX. *Resolved*, That this report be accepted and adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Mayer, our delegate to the Pennsylvania Synod, reported verbally: That he had attended the last meeting of that body, held at Easton, Pa.; that he had met with an invariably kind and cordial reception, and that the Rev. J. Medtart had been appointed a delegate to this body in return. For further information in relation to the proceedings of that Synod, he referred to the report of the Committee on Minutes.

XX. *Resolved*, That this report be accepted, and that the Rev. P. F. Mayer, D.D. be our delegate to the next annual meeting of the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Pennsylvania.

XXI. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Charles A. Smith be our delegate to the next annual meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Maryland.

XXII. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Lewis Smith, jr. be our delegate to the next annual meeting of the New-York Congregational Association.

The Rev. W. D. Strobel presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

XXIII. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed, to meet a similar Committee from the Hartwick Synod, for the purpose of proposing such arrangements, as will lead to a more hearty co-operation, in promoting the great interests of the church.

XXIV. *Resolved*, That said Committee address a letter to the Hartwick Synod, on the subject of this resolution.

Whereupon, the President, with the approbation of the house, ap-



pointed the following brethren, to constitute said Committee: Rev. W. D. Strobel, H. N. Pohlman, and F. W. Geissenhainer, jr.

In compliance with the resolution of yesterday, the President reported the names of the following gentlemen, as constituting the Missionary and Education Board for the ensuing year: Rev. P. F. Mayer, D.D., H. N. Pohlman, J. Berger, W. J. Eyer, F. W. Geissenhainer, jr., F. G. Mayer, C. B. Thuemmel, G. B. Miller, D.D., F. H. Guinther, C. A. Smith, H. Scheib, W. D. Strobel, Col. J. Kline, Mr. F. Rossman, P. N. Bonesteel, Esq., P. W. Engs. Esq., Mr. J. Haas, D. Pohlman, J. Nellis, Esq. and Mr. B. C. Leshner.\*

Rev. L. Smith, jr. from the Committee on Minutes, presented the following report:

"Your Committee appointed to examine the Minutes of Sister Synods, would respectfully Report: That they have found nothing which particularly concerns this body, except the following report and resolutions of the Pennsylvania Synod.

'The Committee appointed to examine into the Streit and Rodelsheim legacies, reported as follows:

That they have examined the President's account, of the receipts and expenditures of the Streit legacy, and found them correct. The receipts amount to \$732  $\frac{11}{100}$ , and the expenditures to \$498  $\frac{32}{100}$ . However, it must be remarked, that of these expenditures, \$98  $\frac{32}{100}$ , were advanced to Missionaries, to be refunded out of the Synodical fund.

*Resolved*, That the fourth part of the Streit legacy, which has come into the hands of the President, some years ago, be handed over to the New-York Synod, by the delegate.

Further, *Resolved*, That the Rev. J. Medtart be the delegate to the New-York Synod.'

Respectfully submitted,

J. MEDTART, *Chairman*."

XXV. *Resolved*, That this Report be accepted and adopted.

XXVI. *Resolved*, That the avails of the Streit legacy, appropriated to the Ministerium of New-York, by the Pennsylvania Synod, be applied at the next meeting of this Ministerium, to the fund for the assistance of disabled clergymen, &c. provided no objection be made in the mean time by those congregations which were in existence prior to the year 1753.

\* At a subsequent meeting of the Board, the following gentlemen were chosen, as the Executive Committee for the ensuing year: Rev. H. N. Pohlman, W. D. Strobel, J. Berger, F. W. Geissenhainer, jr., Col. J. Kline, P. W. Engs, Esq. and Mr. J. Haas.



**XXVII. Resolved,** That the President write to those congregations, in relation to this application of the avails.

The Synod then proceeded to the order of the day, and resolved itself into a Committee of the whole, on the Reports in relation to the expediency of a union with the General Synod, the Rev. J. Berger in the chair.

After some time spent in Committee, the President again resumed his seat, when the Chairman presented the following Report:

"The Committee of the whole, to whom was referred the reports and communications, in relation to the expediency of a Union with the General Synod, report: That they have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to offer the following resolution:

**Resolved,** That this Ministerium accede to the Constitution of the General Synod, as proposed to be amended at its last meeting.

Provided, it be understood, that by this act we do not recognize all the principles contained in the 'Constitution for Synods, and in the Discipline for Churches,' recommended by that body.

Provided further, That the General Synod be regarded as an advisory body only, and that none of its proceedings be binding upon us, until acted upon by this Ministerium, nor be binding upon any congregation in connection with us, until adopted by it.

Provided further, That we retain the present constitution of our own Ministerium, and our present Hymn Book and Liturgy.

Provided further, That it be understood, that this Ministerium does not acknowledge the right of the General Synod to proceed against any member of this body, according to paragraph 1st, under Section 5th of the 3d article of the constitution of the General Synod."

**XXVIII. Resolved,** That this report be accepted.

Closed with prayer by the Rev. N. W. Geortner.

The Rev. Candidate, A. T. Geissenhainer preached this morning, on Matthew vi, 9. "Our Father which art in heaven." He was assisted in the exercises by the applicant, Mr. Simeon Dederick.

### ***Fifth Session.***

***Tuesday, 3 oclock, P.M.***

Prayer by the Rev. W. D. Strobel.

The resolution and provisos presented in the report to the Committee of the whole, on the expediency of a Union with the General Synod, were brought up for consideration, when after a short discussion it was

**XXIX. Resolved,** That the resolution and provisos, in relation to the General Synod, be adopted.



The Synod then proceeded to the election of delegates to the General Synod, when the following gentlemen were chosen, *viva voce*: Rev. A. Wackerhagen, D.D., W. D. Strobel, F. W. Geissenhainer, jr., Col. J. Kline, P. N. Bonesteel, and P. W. Engs, Esqs., *primarii*, Rev. H. N. Pohlman, J. Berger, Lewis Smith, jr., Mr. F. Rossman, J. Nellis, Esq. and Aug. Cammeyer, *secundi*.

The alterations to the Constitution, proposed at the 40th Session of Synod, were brought before the house for consideration, when the amendment offered by the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. was rejected, and that offered by the Rev. W. D. Strobel, adopted.

XXX. *Resolved*, That 250 copies of the Constitution as amended, be printed under the direction of the Secretary.

The President's Report being now in order, it was,

XXXI. *Resolved*, That the 7th article, in relation to the congregations at Lafargeville, together with a letter from the Rev. P. H. Dennler, presented by the Secretary, be referred to the Executive Committee of the Missionary Board.

XXXII. *Resolved*, That the 9th article, in relation to Mr. H. Bokum, be referred to the Ministerium.

XXXIII. *Resolved*, That the 11th article, in relation to brother J. W. Starman, be referred to the Executive Committee of the Missionary Board.

XXXIV. *Resolved*, That the 12th article, in relation to the Rev. Mr. Moellman, be referred to the Ministerium.

XXXV. *Resolved*, That the Report of the President be adopted.

XXXVI. *Resolved*, That the President express the sincere thanks of this Ministerium, to the congregation in this place, for the kindness and hospitality we have enjoyed in their midst, during our present Session.

XXXVII. *Resolved*, That this Synod do now adjourn, to meet on the 2d Saturday of September, A.D. 1837, at the new church in Churchtown, Claverack township, Columbia Co. N. Y. in the congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. Berger.

The business of the Session was then closed with prayer and thanksgiving, by the Rev. President.

This evening at 7½ o'clock, the Rev. Dr. Miller delivered a discourse on Mark, viii. 34. "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me." He was assisted in the exercises by the Rev. J. Harrison, of the Congregational Association.



## **Ministerial Session.**

**Monday, Sept. 12th, 12 o'clock, M.**

Rev. F. G. Mayer opened the Session with prayer.

The Rev. President presented a communication from Zion Church, Baltimore, Md., requesting the ordination of the Rev. candidate, Henry Scheib.

The Rev. C. B. Thuemmel, proposed for examination and licensure, Mr. Andrew Wetzell of New London, Oneida Co. N. Y.

The Rev. Dr. Miller proposed for examination and licensure, Messrs. Simeon Dederick and Edward Meyer, who had finished the regular course at the Theological Seminary.

The Rev. W. D. Strobel made application in behalf of the Rev. John Eisenlord, a member of the Hartwick Synod, who had taken charge of a congregation in connection with this body, to be admitted as a member of this Ministerium. Whereupon, it was,

I. **Resolved**, That the Rev. John Eisenlord, be received as a member of this Ministerium.

The Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. made application, in behalf of the Rev. Frederick Winkler, a licentiate of the Synod of Ohio, who had taken charge of the congregation at Newark, to be admitted as a member of this Ministerium.

The Rev. H. I. Smith proposed the licensure of Mr. Hermann Bokum, of Harvard University.

The Rev. F. G. Mayer made application in behalf of the Rev. William Moellman, of Hanover, Germany, to be admitted as a member of this Ministerium.

II. **Resolved**, That the Rev. Messrs. H. Scheib, F. Winkler, and W. Moellman, be invited to a friendly Theological Colloquium with this Ministerium, at its Session, to-morrow.

III. **Resolved**, That the Rev. Dr. Miller, Dr. Mayer, and Rev. H. I. Smith, be a Committee to examine the applicants, Messrs. Wetzell, Dederick, and Meyer, and report to the Ministerium.

Closed with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Miller.

**Tuesday, 12 o'clock, M.**

Prayer by the Rev. H. I. Smith.

The Rev. H. I. Smith, from the Committee on examination, reported as follows:

"Your Committee, appointed to examine the three students of Theology, Andrew Wetzell, Simeon Dederick, and Edward Meyer, beg leave to report: That they have discharged the duty imposed upon



them by the Ministerium, as far as time permitted, that the young gentlemen have given such evidence of their qualifications, and such solemn assurances of their pure and disinterested motives, in devoting themselves to the Gospel Ministry, as to authorize us to cheerfully recommend them to the Ministerium, for immediate licensure."

GEORGE B. MILLER, *Chairman*.

IV. *Resolved*, That the applicants, Messrs. Andrew Wetzel, Simeon Dederick, and Edward Meyer, receive license to preach the gospel, and to perform other ministerial acts, at the meeting for public worship, to-morrow morning.

The Secretary presented the application of the Rev. Candidate, W. F. Veil, for a renewal of his license.

The Rev. Candidate, A. T. Geissenhainer, presented his journal of ministerial acts, and several sermons for the inspection of the Ministerium.

V. *Resolved*, That the letters of license, granted to the Rev. Candidates, W. F. Veil and A. T. Geissenhainer, at the last Session of the Ministerium, be renewed.

The Ministerium then took a recess until two o'clock, when, agreeably to invitation, the Rev. Messrs. Scheib, Winkler, and Moellman, appeared before the body, and a Theological Colloquium ensued, conducted chiefly in the Latin language. The gentlemen withdrew, when it was,

VI. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Henry Scheib be set apart, and ordained as a Minister of our Lord Jesus Christ, by the appointed solemnities of the church, at the meeting for public worship, to-morrow morning.

VII. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Frederick Winkler be received as a licentiate of this Ministerium.

VIII. *Resolved*, That the Rev. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr., Dr. Miller, Rev. H. I. Smith, and Dr. Beuttner, be a Committee to hold a further conversation with the Rev. Mr. Moellman, and report to this Ministerium.

Closed with prayer by the Rev. C. B. Thuemmel.

Wednesday, 8 o'clock, A.M.

Opened with prayer by the Rev. Chas. A. Smith.

The Secretary presented a letter from the Rev. H. Hayunga, in relation to his congregations at Williamsburgh and Osnaburck, U. C.

IX. *Resolved*, That the above letter be referred to the Executive Committee of the Missionary Board.

The Rev. J. Berger presented a communication from the congre-



gation at Saddle River, requesting to have the Rev. John Eisenlord, installed as their pastor, on Tuesday, the 20th inst. Whereupon, it was,

X. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Messrs. F. W. Geissenhainer, jr., L. Smith, jr., C. A. Smith, and W. D. Strobel, be a Committee to attend to said request.

The Committee, appointed to hold a further conversation with the Rev. Mr. Moellman, having reported the result of their conference, it was,

XI. *Resolved*, That the Rev. William Moellman be received as a member of this Ministerium, and placed under the direction of the Executive Committee of the Missionary Board.

The application of the Rev. H. I. Smith, in behalf of Mr. Hermann Bokum, being next in order, it was,

XII. *Resolved*, That upon the assurances which have been received by this Ministerium, of the qualifications and piety of Professor Hermann Bokum, of Harvard University, the Officers of this body, be authorized to give letters of license to preach the Gospel, to said gentleman, to remain in force until the next Session of the Ministerium.

XIII. *Resolved*, That the propriety of opening a correspondence with Professor Tholuck and others, of the Universities in Germany, in relation to the Missionary operations of our Zion, be referred to the Executive Committee of the Missionary Board.

The Rev. J. Berger remarked, that with the blessing of Divine Providence, his new church in Churchtown, Col. Co. would be finished sometime in the month of November next, and requested that a Committee might be appointed to attend to the dedication. Whereupon, it was,

XIV. *Resolved*. That the Rev. Dr. Wackerhagen, and Rev. Messrs. H. N. Pohlman, W. D. Strobel, F. W. Geissenhainer, jr. and W. J. Eyer, be said Committee.

Closed with prayer by the Rev. President.

### *Licensure and Ordination.*

At 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock the solemnities of this truly interesting occasion, commenced with a Hymn of praise, and fervent and importunate prayer for God's presence and blessing, when the Rev. Dr. P. F. Mayer, delivered the Ordination sermon, from 2d Timothy, iv, 5. "Watch thou in all things." The applicants for licensure were then addressed in a fervent and affectionate strain, by the Rev. President, and having received from them the usual promises, required by the Constitution, he invoked the presence of the Great Head of the Church, to abide with them, and rest in the fulness of his blessing upon them, and



received them as candidates for the Ministry, and members of the Ministerium.

The candidate for ordination, was then affectionately exhorted to take heed unto himself, to his doctrine, and to the ministry which he had received in the Lord, so that he might both save himself and those that heard him. The solemn engagements required by the church of her ministry were then entered into, and the candidate kneeling before the altar, was set apart and solemnly ordained by the imposition of hands, and by prayer as an Ambassador of God, and a Messenger of the glad tidings of salvation. The Rev. Dr. Mayer, the Secretary, Dr. Miller, and Medtart assisted in this apostolic rite. The right hand of Christian fellowship and love was then given, and the brethren, together with the lay delegates from the congregations, and visiting clergymen, in obedience to the command of Him who said, "Do this in remembrance of me," surrounded the table of the Lord, and commemorated his dying love, and renewedly dedicated themselves to Him, whose they were, and whom they were bound to serve.

The farewell was sung, and the Rev. President complied with XXXVI. Resolution of the present Session, and in a warm and feeling manner, adverted to the fact, that though the brethren came to this place as strangers, they were soon made to feel at home, by the kindness and hospitality of the inhabitants. He hoped to meet them again and renew the friendships which had been formed, if not on earth, at least in that happy country, where there would be no parting; and closed the interesting solemnities by pronouncing the benediction.

In the evening, the Rev. Charles A. Smith, delivered a discourse on 1st Timothy, iii, 16. "And without controversy, great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." He was assisted in the exercises by the Rev. Lewis Smith, jr.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and faithful account of the proceedings of the Forty-first Synod, of the Evangelical Lutheran Ministerium, of the State of New-York, and adjacent parts.

HENRY N. POHLMAN, *Secretary.*



## APPENDIX A.

---

### *Report to Synod, September, 1836.*

THAT great and good One, the Holy One of Israel, who has promised that He will never leave nor forsake His people, has been with us in the Synodical year past. We still stand supported by his Almighty arm; our numbers undiminished,—our past experiences of a happy nature,—our prospects cheering, and blessings from above conspicuous among and around us. From the small beginnings which our part of the Church of Christ had in this State, not half a century ago, it has had a remarkable increase. With the growth of the population in this goodly land, the Evangelical Lutheran Church has grown; with its strength we have been strengthened; and numbers are added to us yearly and daily. The Missionary operations of our Ministerium have, of late, gained some extent; the labourers in that field have not laboured without success; societies of worshippers are formed, and temples are erected in places, where, but a few years ago, the trees of the forest were the only tenants of the soil. All these, and numberless other instances of Divine favour vouchsafed to us hitherto, call upon all and each of us for that fervent gratitude, which is due to the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, and for that firm and active trust and hope in Him, which never goes without its promised reward. Thanks be to God, who, in His good and holy Providence, has once more enabled us to meet in Synod, and to meet for the first time in a state and place, where we have never before, as a body, been assembled. May the glory of our Heavenly Father and of his Son Jesus Christ be promoted by our mutual communications and consultations; may our words and our actions be marked by the blessed influence of the Divine Spirit,—the spirit of love, truth, and holiness; and may our meeting result in spiritual joy and profit to ourselves, and many others!

The particular objects, to which I deem it my duty, in my Annual Report, to direct the attention of this Synod, and the various items which I have to lay before you, are the following, viz.:

1. The first month of the present year put me in possession of the agreeable information, communicated by our Brother H. I. Smith, assistant Professor at the Hartwick Seminary, that immediately after our last Synodical meeting, he had paid the intended visit to the German Society in the city of Boston, where he met with the most cordial reception from Germans and others; found the society in a pretty flourishing condition, and enjoying the most flattering prospects for a speedy increase and consolidation. A call was at that time already offered to



our Brother, with the prospect of a competent salary. Upon this call our beloved Brother, as he subsequently informs me, actually entered in the month of May of the present year. His labours, in that recently broken ground in our Lord's vineyard, no doubt, are arduous and various; but I trust they will be met by his known activity and zeal, and the strong arm of the Lord of Hosts will be his support.

2. The Lutheran congregation in the city of Newark, having become vacant since the Synod of last year, the Rev. Mr. Winkler, I have been informed by Brother Strobel, has, early in the present year, taken the charge of that congregation, formerly under the pastoral care of Mr. Merkle.

3. From the same source I have learned, that the Rev. Mr. Eisenlord, formerly of Minden, has become the pastor of the Lutheran Congregation at Saddle River and Ramapo.

4. Mr. H. Bokum, Professor at Harvard University, whom our Ministerium knows as the zealous promoter of the cause of the German Society in Boston, expressed to me his strong desire to become acquainted with, and useful among the German settlers in other places and states, and his intention of travelling with that view, through different sections of these United States, and requested me, for that purpose, to furnish him with a temporary license. His request being accompanied by the most gratifying recommendations of the Rev. H. I. Smith, I gave Mr. Bokum such a license in the shape of a letter of introduction to ministers and destitute congregations of our persuasion, under date of June 21st, 1836.

5. In the fall of last year, our venerable and dear Brother W. L. Gibson, repaired upon invitation to Hartwick, in the hope of increasing the existing very small Lutheran Congregation at that place, by his continued labours as their preacher and spiritual pastor. But finding the materials for a congregation too small in number, and too little effective to contribute, in any adequate manner, to the support of Brother G. he informed me early in the last summer, that he found himself constrained to leave this State for the South, requesting me at the same time, to furnish him with a certificate of his honourable dismissal from our Ministerium, and a letter of recommendation. Although deeply regretting his departure from us, for want of a suitable location among us, I could not but accede to his just request.

6. A letter from our aged brother Starman, Waldoborough, contains an excuse for non-attendance, his parochial reports, and an affecting statement of the inadequacy of his means of support. He requests some either permanent, or at least, temporary aid from our Missionary funds. *I commend his letter to your special attention.*

7. Since the commencement of the present year, the Rev. W. Moellman, an ordained minister of the Lutheran Church in the kingdom of Hanover, than whose testimonials none can be better, has been and is still residing in the city of Albany, where, ever since his arrival, he has preached to the Germans attached to the church of the Rev. F. G. Mayer, whose full confidence he appears to possess. Those Germans, however, being in a great measure, new comers, are not yet in a situa-



tion sufficiently favourable for the support of a Pastor, exclusively their own, I take the liberty of recommending Brother Moellman to you as truly standing, in his present situation on missionary ground; and being able, with the countenance of the Rev. Mr. Mayer, and under the blessing of Divine Providence, to increase the congregation at Albany greatly. With true pleasure, I have, upon the request of Mr. Moellman, and recommendation of Rev. Mr. Mayer, given to the former a general recommendation, similar to that given to Mr. Bokum.

8. On the 23d of May, as the Rev. Brother Berger has informed me, the corner stone was laid to a large new church in Churchtown, in the town of Claverack, in the congregation hitherto under the pastoral care of our aged brother Uhl, in which congregation, Brother Berger, as junior pastor, at present officiates. The solemn consecration of the building for the service of Almighty God, will take place, it is fondly anticipated, about the 1st of November next.

9. The new church in Buffalo, I learn from Brother Strobel, has been enclosed some time since.

10. In Rochester a new church for the congregation under the care of Brother Fetter, is in a way of forwardness, and will be finished in the present autumn.

11. At Newark, the Rev. Mr. Winkler is using his endeavours to effect the building of a church.

12. On Tuesday, 2d of August, Rev. Messrs. Strobel and Berger, from our Missionary Committee, favoured my congregation and myself with a visit, and preached missionary discourses in Germantown and Livingston, where collections in aid of the missionary operations of our Ministerium were taken up, which afterwards received several additions; the amount of which, together with the collection I subsequently made on the Pine Plains, I shall take pleasure in handing over to your Treasurer.

The above are the chief subjects of information which I have at this time to communicate to you, beloved and respected Brethren. Upon others which may be of interest or of importance to us all, the reports of the different committees will throw the necessary light. May, in all our subsequent communications, light, aid and support from above mark our steps and proceedings; and may that Spirit, which was in Christ, be with us all, now and evermore: Amen.

A. WACKERHAGEN, *President.*



## APPENDIX B.

---

THE Missionary and Education Committee report the following arrangements entered into, immediately after the last meeting of the Synod.

There being only a small amount of money in the Education Fund, the whole of it was appropriated to Mr. Edward Meyer, who has now completed his course of Study, and, it is presumed, will present himself to the Synod for licensure.

The following sums were appropriated to the different Missionary stations: Rev. Mr. Fetter, at Rush and Rochester, \$60; Rev. Mr. Veil, at North Boston, \$25; Rev. Mr. Dennler, at Lafargeville, \$20. These different stations have been kept up during the year. In Rochester a church is building. In North Boston and Eden, &c. there are a large number of members, belonging to 92 families; in Sheldon, 21 families; in Orangeville, 18; but they all still need the fostering aid of the church. The committee refer the Synod to Letters No. 1 to 9, for a more perfect account of these concerns. At Newark, we had many difficulties to encounter until sometime in the winter, when the services of the Rev. Mr. Winkler were secured. The sum of \$20, was appropriated to him, and an effort is now making to build a church there. The committee found it also necessary to defray the expenses of some of the brethren sent to assist that people.

The committee, according to adjournment, met in the city of New-York, on the 28th October last. It was then resolved, that we endeavour to procure the services of an agent, to visit our congregations. Though we have not been successful in this, two of the committee, Rev. Messrs. Berger and Strobel, have made visits to a number of our congregations, in behalf of the missionary cause. For the purpose of furthering the interests of our little flock in Boston, Mass. it was resolved to appropriate the sum of \$100, for the coming year, towards the support of our Missionary.—The Rev. H. I. Smith, removed there in May last. He was cheerfully received there by the Christian brethren of other denominations, and for their disinterested benevolence, we owe them many thanks. The happiest results have attended this effort; we cannot doubt but that they will be permanent, and we would refer the Synod to Report marked A.

At the same meeting, the committee attended to the duty with which they were specially charged—the drafting of a plan for missionary operations. They would not pretend to call it perfect, but they think it will tend to promote the glorious object which we have in view,—the



extending of the blessings of ~~S~~alvation to the souls of our fellow men. The plan as adopted by the committee, is subjoined to this Report, for the adoption of the Synod.

During the winter, reports were received by the Secretary from two of the Missionaries, that they were in great need. To relieve their immediate wants he raised a sum of money, out of which he sent \$65 to one, and \$15 to another. At this stage of our report, we would remark, that the provision which we have hitherto been able to make for the brethren who are in the missionary field, has been too small and precarious; we hope that we may be able, under our new system, to make their situation more comfortable. If they were placed upon a more independent footing, they would have more time to attend to their duties, and be able to act with more efficiency.

Rev. Mr. Eyer reports, that he has been acting as Missionary at Poughkeepsie,—that the prospects of establishing a congregation are fair, there being 30 families, and the brethren of other churches very willing to help them. We hope that our Brother will continue his services, and that the Lord will crown them with success. See Letter B.

Rev. Mr. Mayer reports, that Rev. Mr. Moellman has been labouring this winter and summer among the Germans, in the city of Albany; and that they desire his continuance, if they can receive any aid from the Missionary Fund.

Rev. Mr. Wetzel reports, that he has been labouring for some time in Oneida county. There are a large number of stations which may be formed into congregations, and he respectfully asks the aid of the Synod.

The committee now feel it to be their duty to refer to the probable demands which may be made upon us during the ensuing year. There are two sources from which our Missionary Field is constantly enlarging;—emigration from our old congregations, and emigration from Europe. Our churches being principally located in thickly settled parts of the State, where land is very valuable, the younger part of our members are rapidly tending to those portions of the country where they can begin life on a smaller capital. The number who thus depart from the Synod of New-York alone, must be almost sufficient to make a new congregation annually. There is no calculating the number of German emigrants, who have settled down in the State of New-York. They are to be met with in every city, town and village; and the tide which has for several years been flowing to the west, instead of being stayed, seems to be rolling on with increased force. In the city of New-York, alone, there is estimated to be not less than 20,000; in the state at large, they cannot fall far short of treble that number. Our attention must of course be directed to those stations which have already been established; most of them will need our assistance; and after having done what may be needful, we shall endeavour to enlarge the field of operations. The committee has not yet determined what would be the most judicious course. The ground we are called upon to occupy is so extensive—the work so important and momentous, that we would not decide without the most attentive and pray-



erful consideration. We have also delayed, as we could not know the amount of resources upon which we could rely, until after the meeting of the Synod. We are waiting to see the path of usefulness more clearly, and to be convinced that our people stand ready to second our efforts.

A bird's eye view of the United States presents a most interesting spectacle. Thousands are scattered through the wide extent of our land, having left their fire-sides, their altars, their friends, that they might taste the blessings of liberty; and yet they speak a language which cuts them off from all intercourse with society, and they must for years continue strangers in this home of religious freedom. We know not their numbers, we scarce know their location; but we see then on every hand, securing one class of blessings—civil liberty; but losing another—their religious privileges. The fact has often been repeated, that these people have peculiar claims upon us. As we look at that spectacle, there is a voice addressing the Lutheran community—"The field is the world," but *here* is the peculiar field in which you are called upon to labour in the cause of Christ. Oh! that our people could feel this duty—that we could persuade them to come up more freely and liberally to our support. There is an argument more than ordinarily powerful, addressed to every heart in the fact,—that they are *strangers*; and what has not Christ promised to those who have provided for the *Stranger*? and what blessings may not he expect, who, with a generous heart, is endeavouring to send salvation to the friendless? As God's word is true, the prophecy must be fulfilled, that the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. Blessed are those who are zealous for the extension of Emmanuel's reign,—who not only with their lips, but by their actions, are constantly proclaiming, "Come, Lord Jesus; O! come quickly!" We have the sympathies of the Christian Church with us;—they feel for the Germans;—they are anxious to help them. We have substantial evidences of this in what has lately been done for one of our Seminaries, and for our people in Boston. But how can we call upon them, Brethren help us, when we will not help ourselves. When we feel as becomes the disciples of Him, who has commanded us to take up the cross and deny ourselves, we shall find the most zealous co-operation from all those, who are striving that God may be glorified by the increasing triumphs of the Cross; for they are sensible that the stranger in the land must hear the message of salvation from his Brethren, who can preach to him in the language of the Father Land.

WM. D. STROBEL, *Secretary*.







